

Amendments to the Claims

1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (New) A burner nozzle, comprising:

a) an inner conduit, and

b) an outer conduit, the outer conduit being disposed generally concentrically around the inner conduit, the inner and outer conduits terminating in an outlet end,

c) the outer conduit being tapered such that the outer conduit has a diameter which decreases towards the outlet end,

d) the inner conduit being defined by a generally cylindrical inner piece which has inner and outer edges in a vicinity of the outlet end, the inner edge of the inner conduit being rounded,

wherein the nozzle is free of any enclosure downstream of the outlet end, wherein fluids exiting the conduits at the outlet end mix in a region exterior to the nozzle.

22. (New) The burner nozzle of Claim 21, wherein the outer conduit is enclosed by a generally cylindrical outer piece, the outer piece having an inside surface, the inner piece having an outside surface, and wherein, in a vicinity of the outlet end, the inside surface of the outer piece and the outside surface of the inner piece are generally parallel.

23. (New) A burner comprising the nozzle of Claim 22, and wherein the inner piece is connected to an inner pipe having a length which exceeds a length of the inner piece, and wherein the outer piece is connected to an outer pipe having a length which exceeds a length of the outer piece, the inner piece and the inner pipe being longitudinally translatable within

limits.

24. (New) A burner nozzle, comprising:

a) an inner conduit, and

b) an outer conduit, the outer conduit being disposed generally concentrically around the inner conduit, the inner and outer conduits terminating at an outlet end,

c) the outer conduit being tapered such that the outer conduit has a diameter which decreases towards the outlet end,

wherein the nozzle is free of any enclosure downstream of the outlet end, wherein fluids exiting the conduits at the outlet end mix in a region exterior to the nozzle, and

wherein the outer conduit is enclosed by a generally cylindrical outer piece, the outer piece having an inside surface, wherein the inner conduit is defined by a generally cylindrical inner piece, the inner piece having an outside surface, and wherein, in a vicinity of the outlet end, the inside surface of the outer piece and the outside surface of the inner piece are generally parallel.

25. (New) A burner comprising the nozzle of Claim 24, and wherein the inner piece is connected to an inner pipe having a length which exceeds a length of the inner piece, and wherein the outer piece is connected to an outer pipe having a length which exceeds a length of the outer piece, the inner piece and the inner pipe being longitudinally translatable within limits.

26. (New) A burner nozzle, comprising:

a) an inner piece and an outer piece, the outer piece being disposed concentrically around the inner piece, the inner piece defining a first fluid conduit, the inner and outer pieces together defining a region

comprising a second fluid conduit surrounding said first fluid conduit, the inner and outer pieces terminating at an outlet end,

b) wherein the inner piece has an outer surface, and wherein the outer piece has an inner surface, and wherein the outer surface of the inner piece and the inner surface of the outer piece are generally parallel to each other in a vicinity of the outlet end, and

c) wherein the nozzle is free of any enclosure downstream of the outlet end, wherein fluids exiting the first and second conduits at the outlet end mix in a region exterior to the nozzle.

27. (New) The nozzle of Claim 26, wherein the inner piece has inner and outer edges, and wherein the inner edge of the inner piece is rounded in a vicinity of the outlet end.

28. (New) A burner nozzle, comprising:

a) an inner piece and an outer piece, the outer piece being disposed concentrically around the inner piece, the inner piece defining a first fluid conduit, the inner and outer pieces together defining a region comprising a second fluid conduit surrounding said first fluid conduit, the inner and outer pieces terminating at an outlet end,

b) wherein the inner piece has inner and outer edges, and wherein the inner edge of the inner piece is rounded in a vicinity of the outlet end, and

c) wherein the nozzle is free of any enclosure downstream of the outlet end, wherein fluids exiting the first and second conduits at the outlet end mix in a region exterior to the nozzle.